Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION ARA-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4919

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, OASGA, PA

SUBJECT: OAS SECRETARY GENERAL

1. FONMIN SAPENA PASTOR, WHO HAS KEPT A LOW PROFILE EVER SINCE HE WITHDREW FROM THE RACE, CALLED ME LATE MAY 15 FOR A DISCUSSION. HE SAID THAT IN HIS VIEW IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO BREAK THE EXISTING TIE AND HE THROUGHT THE SOLUTION WOULD BE TO EXTEND GALO PLAZA'S TERM WHICH, THROUGH SOME TECHNICALITIES, COULD BE MADE POSSIBLE. WHEN HE ASKED FOR MY OPINION, I TOLD HIM BLUNTLY THAT AT THIS STAGE THE ACTION IS IN WASHINGTON AND THAT IF HE HAD ANY VIEWS ON THIS MATTER, HE PRESUMABLY WOULD MAKE THEM KNOWN THROUGH AMBASSADOR SOLANO LOPEZ.

2. COMMENT: SAPENA, WHO STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO SEE PRESS HERE AND HAS MADE NO ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT WITH-DRAWAL FROM RACE IN PARAGUAY, OBVIOUSLY THINKS THAT A POSTPONEMENT OF THE SELECTION MAY REVIVE HIS CHANCES. NOT ONLY DID I NOT RPT NOT GIVE HIM ANY ENCOURAGEMENT BUT I MADE IT CLEAR THAT I WOULD NOT PASS ON HIS SUGGESTION TO THE DEPARTMENT AS HE HAS AN APPROPRIATE CHANNEL THROUGH HIS OWN AMBASSADOR. CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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